

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

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PARIS FOR US PERMREP TO UNESCO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: DIRECTOR GENERAL OF UNESCO ADDRESSES CONFERENCE

1. IN RESPONSE CSCE INVITATION (GENEVA 6363), RENE MAHEU ADDRESSED JOINT MEETING OF THREE APPROPRIATE SUBCOMMITTEES (SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, CULTURAL COOPERATION, AND EDUCATION) ON FEBRUARY 4, SPEAKING FOR ABOUT ONE HOUR ALONG PREDICTABLE LINES. MAHEU SUMMARIZED CURRENT UNESCO CONTRIBUTIONS TO EUROPEAN EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND CULTURAL COOPERATION AS OUTLINED IN UNESCO MAY, 1973, PUBLICATION PREPARED WITH CSCE IN MIND. HE SAID THIS DOCUMENT "STILL VALID" AND UPDATED IT BY DESCRIBING TWO POST-MAY, 1973 DEVELOPMENTS: UNESCO EFFORTS IN PROMOTING EXCHANGES AMONG EUROPEAN NATIONS IN FIELD OF TV; AND SECOND CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF EDUCATION EUROPEAN MEMBER STATES HELD IN BUCHAREST NOVEMBER 26- DECEMBER 3, 1973 (SCEME).

2. MAHEU DECLARED THAT UNESCO COULD BE OF "SERVICE" TO CSCE BY PROVIDING BOTH AN "INSTITUTIONAL" AND A "NORMATIVE" FRAMEWORK FOR WHATEVER TASKS CONFERENCE MIGHT WISH ASSIGN TO IT. RE LATTER POINT, HE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF ARTICLE 11 OF DECLARATION

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OF PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL COOPERATION (-\$9053\$ -5
7,3 :9'S GENERAL CONFERENCE ON NOVEMBER 4, 1966) PROVIDING IN
FIRST PARAGRAPH THAT IN ACHIEVING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, STATES
SHALL "RESPECT SOVEREIGN EQUALITY ... AND SHALL REFRAIN FROM INTERVEN
A

TION IN MATTERS WHICH ARE ESSENTIALLY WITHIN THE DOMESTIC JURISDIC-
TION OF ANY STATE." THIS COUNTERBALANCED, HOWEVER, BY SECOND
PARAGRAPH ASSERTING THAT "THE PRINCIPLES OF THIS DECLARATION SHALL
BE APPLIED WITH DUE REGARD FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL
FREEDOMS." MAHEU HELD THAT IF PROGRESS IS TO BE MADE IN INTER-
GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, "WE MUST TRY TO RECONCILE THESE TWO
IMPERATIVES" AND THAT "RECIPROCAL CONCESSIONS ARE NECESSARY";
ON ONE HAND, STATES SHOULD REFRAIN FROM EXPLOITING HUMAN RIGHTS
FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES BUT ON OTHER SOME ADJUSTMENTS IN NATIONAL
LEGISLATION PROBABLY NECESSARY. COMMENT: SEVERAL WESTERN REPS
(INCLUDING UK AND CANADA) HAVE EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT WHAT THEY
REGARDED AS "LECTURE" BY MAHEU ON THIS SUBJECT, ESPECIALLY AS IT
INVOLVES SENSITIVE POLITICAL ISSUE NOW UNDER DISCUSSION AT CSEC.

3. ON INSTITUTIONAL POINT, MAHEU SAID UNESCO COULD ACT AS
"EXECUTIVE AGENCY" FOR ANY REGIONAL OR SUB-REGIONAL PROJECTS
ESTABLISHED BY CONFERENCE. THIS CONNECTION, HE STRESSED FINAL
RECOMMENDATION OF SCHEME ON "CONVENING--UNDER UNDESCO'S AUSPICES--
OF PERIODIC CONFERENCES OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EUROPEAN MEMBER
STATES TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN ALL FIELDS
WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF THE ORGANIZATION... SUCH CONFERENCES....
WOULD BE FINANCED FROM THE REGULAR BUDGET OF UNESCO." HE
STATED THAT HE WILL MAKE NO PROPOSALS ON THIS RECOMMENDATION UNTIL HE
HAS LEARNED WHETHER CSCE MIGHT FIND A USE FOR THESE CONFERENCES,
WHICH HE "OFFERING" TO CSCE. IN SUMMING UP, HE DECLARED THAT
UNESCO IS COMMITTED TO EUROPEAN COOPERATION AND PREPARED TO PLACE
ITS FACILITIES AND SERVICES AT CSCE DISPOSAL IF CONFERENCE SO
WISHED, EITHER "WITHIN OR OUTSIDE OF" REGULAR UNESCO PROGRAMS.
TEXT OF HIS REMARKS WILL BE POUCHED SOONEST.

4. IN ACCORDANCE WITH CSCE PRACTICE ON SUCH OCCASIONS, THERE WAS
NO DISCUSSION AFTER SPEECH. MAHEU WAS ACCOMPANIED BY PIERRE
LEBAR (CHEF DE DIVISION EUROPE ET AMERIQUE DU NORD) BUT LATTER
DID NOT ADDRESS THE MEETING.

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5. US PREM REP TO UNESCO NOW HERE FOR MEETING OF GENEVA GROUP
HAS BEEN INFORMED OF FOREGOING.

COMMENT: IN CONSIDERING ANY POSSIBLE POST-CSCE ROLE FOR UNESCO,
WE SHOULD BEAR IN MIND SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE THAT US AND CANADA
ARE NOT MEMBERS OF UNESCO'S EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP (ERG), THAT
DECISION ON US ENTRY INTO ERG WILL NOT BE MADE UNTIL 18TH GENERAL
CONFERENCE THIS OCTOBER, AND THAT POSTURE OF EC-NINE (ESPECIALLY

THE FRENCH) TOWARD SUCH ENTRY IS IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN ELECTION EQUATION AT GENERAL CONFERENCE. QUESTION OF UNESCO'S ROLE IS, OF COURSE, LINKED TO BROADER ISSUE OF FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITY TO THE CONFERENCE. THE NINE ARE ARE SILL CONSIDERING POSSIBILITIES FOR SPECIALIZED FOLLOW-ON AND HAVE MADE NO DECISION ON POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTION BY UNESCO OR OTHER EXISTING INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. AS DECISION BEGINS EMERGE IN THIS AREA AND IF IT APPEARS THAT UNESCO WILL BE ASKED PLAY SOME ROLE, WE WILL COORDINATE CLOSELY WITH THE NINE (THROUGH NATO CAUCUSES). DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER WHETHER EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN US MEMBERSHIP IN ERG WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AT THAT TIME. END COMMENT.DALE

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